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18 Chestnut-sided Warbler de-	21 Myrtle Warbler departed
parted	22 Least Flycatcher departed
19 Cape May Warbler departed	24 Cedarbird
19 Nighthawk	26 Whip-poor-will
19 Yellow throated Vireo	26 Black-poll Warbler departed
19 Red-eyed Vireo	27 Yellow-billed Cuckoo
19 Canadian Warbler	29 Black-throated Green War-
20 Alder Flycatcher	bler departed
20 Pine Warbler	30 Hermit Thrush departed
Total number of migrants seen, 82	

A QUESTION OF SYNONYMS.

BY J. A. NIEUWLAND.

Following the lead of Dr. Rydberg* who proposed the genus *Galeorchis* with *Orchis spectabilis* Linn. as type, Dr. Small† also rejects Rafinesque's name *Galearis*‡ for that plant, because there was an earlier name *Galearia* Presl,|| a segregate of *Trifolium*. For that matter there was a still earlier *Galearia* Heist, (1748), and since Rafinesque's time another such for a group of Euphorbiaceous plants.§ Rafinesque's name *Calistachya*, (1808) of which *C. virginica* (or *Veronica virginica* Linn.) is the type has not been admitted and the *Leptandra* Nuttall (1818) given preference, because there was a *Callistachys* Vent. (1803).¶ for a similar reason to that stated above. Whether *Galearis* and *Galearia*, a four syllabled word and the other of five, though of common derivation, are so sufficiently alike as to constitute synonyms, need not be decided here, but may be left to the reader to form his own opinion. As a matter of note we may mention that the spoken name may be regarded as the name of the plant, for one of the

* Rydberg. P. A. Britton's Manual Fl. N. U. S. 292 (1901).

† Small, J. K. Flora S. E. U. S. p. 312 (1903).

‡ Rafinesque, C. S. Fl. Tell. p. II. p. 39, (1836).

|| Presl. Symb. Bot. I. 49, (1830).

§ Zoll. & Mor. Syst. Verz. Zoll. 19 (1845-46).

¶ This name was translated into *Calistachya* Sm. Trans. Linn. Soc. IX, 267 (1808). The latter example is not perhaps as typical as the former.

principal uses for a name at all is the same spoken word. If two names sound alike they may be considered as synonyms; for synonyms are principally to be avoided because of confusion of an enunciated appellations. Otherwise, a system of distinguishing plants more satisfactory perhaps for tabulation purposes might be suggested such as is applied to fixed stars. In any case the names *Galearis* and *Galearia*, *Calistachya* and *Callistachys* are referred to here in regard to another instance of synonymy in which a stronger reason for regarding names as synonyms has not been admitted by our manuals, and notably the two manuals already referred to.

The name *Wolffia* Horkel, (1839) was antedated by a *Wolfia* Dennst. (1818), a *Wolfia* Sprengel, (1825) and a *Wulffia* Necker (1799). Though not perhaps named after the same person, the three above-mentioned are practically identical, and to most of us there will seem less of difference between these, whether written with an *o* and two *f*'s or a *u*, than there was the difference between *Galearis* and *Galearia* on the ground either of derivation or spelling. It would seem then that if one rejects *Galearis*, one would have greater reason for rejecting the name *Wolffia* for the Lemnaceous plants.

In fact this genus of rather insignificant plants has been rather unfortunate with the number of synonyms, applied to it as the following resumé of names will show.

BRUNIERA Franch, in Billotia 25, (1864).

Wolffia Horkel ex Schleid. Linnaea XIII 389 (1839) = *Wolffia* Kunth Enum. Pl. III. 4 (1841) not *Wolfia* Dennst. Schluss. Hort. Malab. 38. (1818) nor *Wolfia* Sprengel, Syst. I. 808 (1825) nor *Wulffia* Necker, Elem. I. 35 (1790).

Grantia Griff. ex Voigt Hort. Suburb. Calc. 692 (1845) et Notul III. 223 (1851) not *Grantia* Bois. Diag. Ser. I, vi. 79 (1845).

Horkelia Reichenb. ex Bartl. Ord. 76 (1830) not *Horkelia* Cham & Schlecht in Linnaea II., 26, (1827).

Bruniera columbiana (Karsh.)

Wolffia columbiana Karsten.

Grantia Columbiana (Karst.) MacM. (1892).

Bruniera punctata (Griseb.)

Wolffia punctata Griseb.